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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Morocco

REPORT

SUBJECT The Fondouk (Animal Hospital) and Practice of  
Veterinary Medicine

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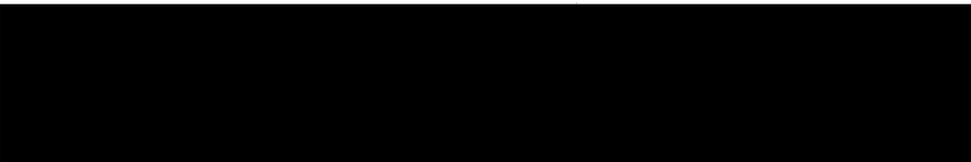
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1. The Fondouk at Fez is an organization maintained specifically to treat injuries to donkeys, mules and horses. Although it is financed by US capital and control rests in a US board of directors, the actual administration is under the direction of Dr Guy Delon, a French-born and trained veterinarian, who is very competent. He has been very successful in his practice in both large and small animals in Fez and he enjoys an excellent reputation among the native Arabs and the Europeans living in Fez.
2. Delon is assisted in his work at the Fondouk by another French-born and trained veterinarian and two Mohammedan male helpers who have been in the employ of the Fondouk for over 20 years. There is in Fez, a city with a population of about 250 thousand Arabs and 20 thousand Europeans, about 77 thousand donkeys, 31 thousand mules and 22 thousand horses. The US directors of the Fondouk have been trying for several years to encourage Delon to select a committee of French citizens which they believe might give more moral support to the Fondouk. Delon advises [REDACTED] the French people in Fez with whom he has discussed this matter do not believe it is wise to be very closely associated with any organization that is supported by US funds.
3. The main work of Delon and the Fondouk is to treat the injuries to the donkeys. It is the practice of the natives who own donkeys to ride sideways on them and to prod them on by jamming large needles into the back of the donkeys. The natives have no thought about this cruel treatment and the jamming of the needle becomes an automatic procedure. When one spot on the back becomes so raw and sore that the needle no longer provokes the desired response, the rider then begins to poke the needle in a fresh spot on the back. The result is that many of the donkeys in Fez have large running native inflicted sores all over their backs and it is this sort of habit and practice that Delon is trying to stop.

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4. Delon has been very successful but it is obvious that he and his two native helpers are up against large odds. Each day they go into the native market area where they stop and treat the animals as they see them. If the sores are too bad, Delon gives the native driver a slip of paper which directs the owner of the donkey to bring it to the Fondouk where it is kept for more extensive treatment until the sores are healed. The Fondouk has up to 70 or 80 donkeys being cared for at all times.
5. In his practice, Delon has the full support of the Pasha and the natives know that they will or can be jailed if they disregard an order given to them to bring their donkeys to the Fondouk. They also know that they can be jailed if they are caught in possession of the large needles. The two Mohammedan helpers do most of the veterinary work such as trimming dead flesh and administering medicines. They have become excellent veterinary nurses during the past 20 years.
6. All cab horses in Fez must also be brought to the Fondouk every Monday where they are inspected by Delon and his assistant. Cab horses are registered by having numbers printed on their hoofs which is also done at the Fondouk.
7. There is no real animal disease problem in Fez although rabies is very prevalent, as it is throughout all of North Africa. It is not expected that dogs will live for more than three or four years and the dogs are a mongrel breed. The climate and other conditions are not favorable for pure bred dogs.

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*Area*

TYPE ACT-DATE INFO-TFR-DATE AREA

*Veterinary facilities*

*Morocco, Fez  
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